20. (Amended) The use according to claim 17, wherein the nucleic acid encoding HGF is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

21. (Amended) The use according to claim 17, wherein the amount of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF is at least 50 μg.

## REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are amended to correct form. No new matter is added. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

## CONCLUSION

If any minor matters remain to be discussed prior to examination, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN CAMPBELL
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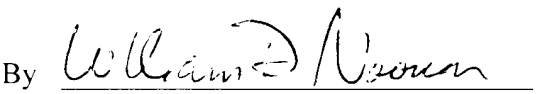
By 
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**Marked-up Version of Amended Claims and Specification**
**Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)-(c)**

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A therapeutic agent for treating a diabetic ischemic disease, [which comprises] comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) [as the effective ingredient].

2. (Reiterated) The therapeutic agent according to claim 1, used for administration to the ischemic site.

3. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy [or] and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

4. (Reiterated) The therapeutic agent according to claim 3, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

5. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to [any of claims] claim 1 [to 4, used for] wherein the administration is into the muscle of the ischemic site.

6. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to [any of claims] claim 1 [to 5], wherein the nucleic acid encoding the HGF [gene] is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

7. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to [any of claims] claim 1 [to 6, which is to be administered repeatedly as needed] wherein the administration is repeated.

8. (Amended) The therapeutic agent according to [any of claims ] claim 1 [to 7], [wherein the amount of HGF gene used is] comprising at least 50 μg of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF.

9. (Amended) A method for the treatment of a diabetic ischemic disease, [which comprises the transfer of the HGF gene into human] comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor, thereby treating the diabetic ischemic disease.

10. (Reiterated) The method according to claim 9, wherein the HGF gene is administered to an ischemic site.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 9 [or 10], wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy [or] and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

12. (Reiterated) The method according to claim 11, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

13. (Amended) The method according to [any of claims] claim 9 [to 12], wherein the nucleic acid encoding HGF [gene] is administered into the muscle of ischemic site.

14. (Amended) The method according to [any of claims] claim 9 [to 13], wherein the HGF gene is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

15. (Amended) The method according to [any of claims] claim 9 [to 14], wherein the nucleic acid encoding the HGF [gene] is administered repeatedly [as needed].

16. (Amended) The method according to [any of claims] claim 9 [to 15], wherein [the amount of HGF gene to be administered is] at least 50 μg of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF is administered to the subject.

17. (Amended) Use of [the] a nucleic acid encoding HGF [gene] for preparing therapeutic agents for diabetic ischemic disease.

18. (Amended) The use according to claim 17, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy [or] and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

19. (Reiterated) The use according to claim 18, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

20. (Amended) The use according to [any of claims] claim 17 [to 19], wherein the nucleic acid encoding HGF [gene] is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

21. (Amended) The use according to [any of claims] claim 17 [to 20], wherein the amount of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF [gene to be used] is at least 50 μg.